



# City of Buffalo

## Living Wage Commission

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### **Living Wage Language for City Contracts**

#### **Living Wage Ordinance**

Contractor shall comply with the Living Wage Ordinance of the City of Buffalo (Buffalo City Code § 96-19), if applicable. The Ordinance applies to contracts in which the City pays or receives over \$50,000 and the employer has at least ten employees. It does not apply to contracts for professional services. Compliance includes:

- Paying all covered employees a living wage. Covered employees are all employees, full or part-time, employed in, on, or for the project or matter subject to the contract, except persons employed in construction work covered pursuant to federal or state prevailing wage laws.
- Submitting quarterly reports to the Living Wage Commission, including the name, address, classification, period of employment and wage rate of all employees covered by the Ordinance.
- Posting two copies of the Ordinance or a summary approved by the Living Wage Commission in conspicuous places where notices to employees and applicants for employment are customarily posted.
- Informing employees making less than \$12 per hour of their possible right to the Federal Earned Income Credit and making available forms required to secure advance Earned Income Credit payments from Contractor.

Violating the Ordinance will enable any aggrieved employee to file an action against the contractor for damages and/or a grievance with the City's Living Wage Commission. The City has the discretion to terminate the contract and pursue any other legal remedies if Contractor fails to comply with the Ordinance.



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### History of Buffalo's Living Wage Hourly Rates

	With health benefits	Without health benefits
As of July 1, 2000	\$6.22	\$7.22
As of January 1, 2001	\$7.15	\$8.15
As of January 1, 2002	\$8.08	\$9.08
As of January 1, 2003	\$8.08	\$9.08
As of January 1, 2004	\$9.03	\$10.15
As of January 1, 2005	\$9.03	\$10.15
As of January 1, 2006	\$9.03	\$10.15
As of March 24, 2007	\$9.59	\$10.77
As of January 1, 2008	\$9.90	\$11.11
As of January 1, 2010	\$10.31	\$11.57
As of January 1, 2010	\$10.70	\$12.01

Note: as of January 1, 2008, the living wage rate will rise each January 1 based on inflation as measured by the increase, if any, in the National Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U) published by the U.S. Department of Labor for the year preceding the prior year. In other words, the increase on January 1, 2010 is based on the CPI-U for 2008.



# *City of Buffalo*

## *Living Wage Commission*

### **APPLICATION FOR CONTRACT WITH THE CITY OF BUFFALO**

The City's Living Wage Ordinance applies to contracts for services in which the City pays – or receives – more than \$50,000 per year, and the contractor employs more than ten people. If you are bidding, responding to an RFP, or otherwise planning to make a contract with the City, you must complete this form, a copy of which will be forwarded to the City's Living Wage Commission. Your subcontractors need not file a separate Application, but they must pay a living wage. If you win the contract, you and your subcontractors will file quarterly reports with the Living Wage Commission.

You must certify that you will pay at least the hourly wages mandated by the Ordinance. For 2017, the rate is \$11.64 if the worker receives health benefits from the employer and \$13.07 if the employee does not. There is an automatic cost-of-living adjustment to the rate each January 1.

There are two exceptions to the Ordinance. Professional contracts such as legal, architectural, or engineering services are not covered by the Ordinance. Also, persons employed in construction work covered by prevailing wage laws are exempt from the Ordinance.

The City department responsible for the contract should forward the completed Application for Contract of the employer chosen for the contract to: Living Wage Commission, c/o Cornell University ILR, 617 Main St., Suite 300, Buffalo, NY, 14203, [lwcbuffalo@gmail.com](mailto:lwcbuffalo@gmail.com).

#### **1. Company Information**

<b>Company Name:</b>	
<b>Executive Officer:</b>	
<b>Address:</b>	
<b>City, State, Zip:</b>	
<b>Phone No.:</b>	
<b>Total No. of Employees:</b>	

#### **2. Please describe the specific project or service for which the contract is sought:**


#### **3. Contract Information**

<b>Dollar Value of Your Bid/Contract:</b>	
<b>Identifying City Contract or Project Number:</b>	
<b>Start and End Dates of Contract:</b>	

**4. If you answer “Yes” to any of these, you need not complete parts 5, 6, and 7**

A) Are <i>all</i> persons who will work under the contract construction workers covered by federal or state prevailing wage laws?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
B) Is this a contract for professional services such as legal, architectural, or engineering?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
C) Do you employ less than ten people?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
D) Is the total value of the contract less than \$50,000 per year?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No

**5. Please describe the employees who will work on this contract. Attach additional sheets as needed.**

Job Title	Duties to be Performed	Hourly Wage	Receives Health Benefits?

**6. Subcontractors**

Will there be subcontractors?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
If yes, please provide name address, and phone for each subcontractor. Attach additional sheets as needed.	

**7. Please provide a signature by an official of your company with the legal authority to make binding commitments.**

I certify that if awarded a City contract I will fully comply with the Living Wage Ordinance.

Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Print: \_\_\_\_\_

Title: \_\_\_\_\_